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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A

REPORT NO. CD NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

25
INTELEOFAXCOUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone) DATE DISTR. 28 April 1952
SUBJECT DDR Shortage of Heavy Steel Rollers NO. OF PAGES 1

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NOT CIRCULATESUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. The attachment lists the DDR requirements for steel rollers in 1952, listing 25X1 unit, type, specifications, and quality.

2. 25X1
[redacted] That the DDR faces a serious shortage of heavy steel rollers. The situation will be further aggravated in April when the heavy rolling mill at Hettstedt is closed down for a four-week overhaul. In order to offset this deficit, [redacted] has stated that it is necessary for production at the "Willy Becker" rolling mill in Karchwasser, and at "Michael Niederkirchner", Ilsenburg, to be stepped up as far as possible.

3. Production at the two plants, however, is hindered by a lack of rollers. To date, the DDR has been unable to produce heavy rollers needed for this type of production. Although new projects had been completed to the extent that casting has to have begun in the next weeks, lack of experience in this field will probably mean that the first castings will not be satisfactory in all quality specifications. In view of this fact, rollers have been ordered for "Willy Becker" and "Michael Niederkirchner" from Poland and the USSR. Moreover, attempts are being made through triangle trade deals to secure rollers in West Germany.

4. The situation at the "Willy Becker" rolling mill is especially critical. While the plant would normally produce steel plates between eight and fifteen millimeters in thickness, currently it has had to cease production of plates under ten millimeters thick. Because of the poor condition of the rollers, responsibility for normal production can no longer be assumed, since the danger exists that the rollers will burst if subjected to high pressure and the mill will come to a complete standstill. Because of this necessity alone, which has not decreased total production but rather has limited the types of production, repercussions have been felt in the steel processing industry. If the DDR is not successful in obtaining substitute rollers by the end of February, it is possible that the entire rolling mill may have to be shut down.

5. 25X1

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25X1

DDR NEED FOR ROLLERS, 1950

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Diameter and Length</u>	<u>Quality</u>
2 pieces	Supporting	250 ϕ x 251.5	
2 "	Working	130 " x 250	
28 "	"	180 " x 210	
18 "	"	200 " x 210	
8 "	"	250 " x 260	
18 "	Cold	213 " x 250	
50 "	B 4	163 " x 200	
6 "	B 5	183 " x 210	
6 "	B 6	213 " x 250	
2 "	B 6 / 8"	213 " x 250	
4 "	B 8"	263 " x 350	
2 "	6"	150 " x 180	
2 "	8"	210 " x 250	
3 units	Heavy plate rollers, each w/ 2 middle rollers (Trio)	850 " x 2300	Forged steel, chromium nickel alloy, from Bochum or Herde
4 "	Heavy plate rollers (Duo)	990 " x 3400	Schalenhartguss, from Buch, Weidenau/Sieg
1 "	Heavy plate rollers (Duo)	950 " x 2580	"
3 "	Double T 40	1130 " x 2550	Stahlersatzguss, from Breitenbach, Göttermann, Koelsch - Fölzer
3 pieces	Overroller U 30	1150 " x 2550	"
3 "	Underroller U 30	1040 " x 2550	"
3 "	Overroller S 49	1140 " x 2550	"
3 "	Underroller S 49	1105 " x 2550	"

Comment: Walzwerk Willy Becker, Kirchmoeser, VEB.

Comment: Kupfer-und Walzwerk Michael Niederkirchner, VEB, Ilsenburg/Harz.

Comment: Case-hardened castings.

Comment: Literal translation: Steel spare (?) castings.